

# **SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

**UPDATED 2014**

## ***Purpose of checklist:***

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

## ***Instructions for applicants:*** [\[help\]](#)

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

## ***Instructions for Lead Agencies:***

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

## ***Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:*** [\[help\]](#)

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the [SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS \(part D\)](#). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

## **A. background** [\[help\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: [\[help\]](#)

**Yakima River Edge Habitat Project**

2. Name of applicant: [\[help\]](#)

**Yakama Nation Fisheries, Yakima Klickitat Fisheries Project**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [\[help\]](#)

Scott Nicolai  
201 N. Pearl  
Ellensburg, WA 98926  
(509) 962-6142  
ykfphabitat@fairpoint.net

4. Date checklist prepared: [\[help\]](#)  
September 17, 2014

5. Agency requesting checklist: [\[help\]](#)  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [\[help\]](#)  
September 2014-February 2019

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. [\[help\]](#)  
No specific plans but would like to see these structures installed in several reaches of the the Yakima River in the future to provide fish habitat.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [\[help\]](#)

Cultural Resources Report

Engineered Designs

Applications for Permits and Authorizations (JARPA, APPS)

WDNR's Public Safety Checklist for Large Wood Projects

Flood Hazard Assessment

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain. [\[help\]](#)  
None known

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [\[help\]](#)

ESA Section 7 Consultation (USFWS & NOAA Fisheries) thru BPA's HIP 3 Programmatic BiOp

NHPA Section 106 Consultation

CWA Section 404 from the US Army Corps of Engineers

CWA Section 401 from Washington Department of Ecology

HPA from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Landuse authorization from Washington Department of Natural Resources

Shoreline Master Program Review by Kittitas County

Floodplain Development Permit from Kittitas County

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to

describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.) [\[help\]](#)

**Yakama Nation's Yakima Klickitat Fisheries Project is implementing an edge habitat restoration project on the mainstem Yakima River near the Cle Elum Supplementation and Research Facility located at 800 Spring Chinook Way, Cle Elum, WA. Wood structures will be installed on river banks and gravel bars during low flows, after cessation of irrigation delivery in the fall. The bed and banks of this reach of the Yakima are owned by Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR).**

**Fish habitat productivity in this reach of the Yakima River is compromised by flow regulation and floodplain loss. Railroad and interstate revetments prevent side channel development and irrigation delivery from 800k acre feet of reservoirs keep the flows artificially high in the summer, while reducing the frequency of flood flows that historically shaped the river and maintained productive side channels. Euro-settlement resulted in removal of wood from the floodplain and stream channel. This location (and many other areas) is seen by many as an irrigation conduit - efficient water conveyance, but straight and simplified, with extremely low fish habitat productivity. However, there is opportunity to rebuild habitat complexity and improve salmonid production by installing modest wood structures on the margins of the channel.**

**This reach is proximate to the Cle Elum River confluence. Abundant numbers of spring Chinook salmon migrate from the ocean 520 miles upstream to spawn immediately above this project location. Mid Columbia steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act also use this reach of river. The project is intended as a proof of concept phase, to determine whether small wood structures can be built at low cost along the margins of the stream channel, that will still provide juvenile salmonid rearing habitat that is of extremely high functional productivity. Implementation of this project will promote discussions with other interest groups regarding management of the river for multiple uses.**

**Three types of structures will be built; Type 1 structures will be along the banks with vertical posts providing stability to interwoven logs. Type 2 structures will be built on existing gravel bars during low flow; also using posts for stability and Type 3 structures will be post-stabilized individual trees with an attached rootwad. Each structure type was designed by an engineering firm with expertise in river restoration. The structures have been selected to provide habitat and to be stable at the 100-year flood.**

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist. [\[help\]](#)

1. Kittitas County, about 2 miles west of Cle Elum
2. Yakima River Mile 185, about 0.5 mile downstream of Cle Elum River Confluence
3. SE ¼ Section 32, Township 20, Range 15
4. Parcel Numbers: 834235, 844235, 744235
5. Project is located about ¼ mile upstream of the Cle Elum Supplementation and Research Facility

## **B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS** [\[help\]](#)

### **1. Earth**

- a. General description of the site [\[help\]](#)  
(circle one): ☐ Flat, ☐ rolling, ☒ hilly, steep slopes, mountainous,  
other \_\_\_\_\_

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? [\[help\]](#)  
**Less than 2% for inwater and nearwater work areas; less than 50% for log harvest areas**

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils. [\[help\]](#)

**Harvest Area 1: Roslyn ashy sandy loam, Xerofluvents, Dystroxerepts---not significant ag land**

**Harvest Area 2: Racker ashy sandy loam, Xerofluvents, Roslyn ashy sandy loam, Dystroxerepts—not significant ag land**

**In and Near Water Areas: Xerofluvents, Roslyn ashy sandy loam, Racker ashy sandy loam, Dystroxerepts, Patnish-Mippon-Myzel complex—not significant ag land**

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

**No**

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill. [\[help\]](#)

**There will be no gravels, cobbles, or soil imported or removed from the project area. Three types of habitat structures are proposed for construction. Each requires excavation of native materials, addition of logs and woody material, and backfilling with native soil, cobbles, and gravels. In total, about 2500 linear feet of river may be treated with the complete project; although it will not be continuous.**

**Up to 32 Type 1 structures may be constructed. Each requires excavation and backfill of about 15 cubic yards of material.**

**Up to two Type 2 structures may be constructed. Each requires excavation and backfill of about 520 cubic yards of material.**

**Up to three Type 3 structures may be constructed. Each requires excavation and backfill of about 65 cubic yards of material.**

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

**Yes, but best management practices will be applied during all phases of construction to minimize disturbance and prevent additional erosion. Measures will be applied to prevent soil from eroding into the Yakima River.**

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? [\[help\]](#)

**None, not applicable**

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: [\[help\]](#)

**The areas of disturbance will be minimized as much as possible and best management practices will be applied to prevent eroded soils from entering the river to protect water quality. Disturbed areas will be replanted with native vegetation within the structures and on disturbed areas.**

## **2. Air**

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)

**There are no long term sources of air emissions associated with this project. Diesel exhaust from equipment working during construction is the only known emission associated with this proposal.**

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

**None known**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [\[help\]](#)

**All vehicles will be in good working order and turned off when not in use.**

### **3. Water**

- a. Surface Water: [\[help\]](#)

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into. [\[help\]](#)

**Yes, the Yakima River is a shoreline of the state and a tributary to the Columbia River. The Cle Elum River flows into the Yakima River upstream of the work area.**

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans. [\[help\]](#)

**Yes, the project will improve fish habitat and refuge along the edges of the Yakima River and its' gravel bars.**

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material. [\[help\]](#)

**If all 37 structures are built, approximately 1680 cubic yards of material will be excavated and backfilled into the habitat structures. Most of this work will occur on dry gravel bars and streambanks. No material other than logs and woody material will be imported to the river.**

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)

**No.**

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. [\[help\]](#)

**Yes, all work except harvest of logs will occur within the 100 year floodplain of the Yakima River.**

- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge. [\[help\]](#)

**During a storm event, it is possible that erosion could cause a discharge of soil and/or unstabilized riverbed/bank material.**

- b. Ground Water:

- 1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)

**No, not applicable.**

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve. [\[help\]](#)

**Not Applicable**

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

**Best management practices will be applied to prevent runoff from entering the waterbodies. Instream work will be completed as quickly as possible and weather forecasts will be monitored daily to prepare for any forecasted large storm events.**

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

**Soil could enter surface waters during a storm event.**

- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

**No.**

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

**Erosion control measures will be applied throughout all phases of construction and until final site stabilization is achieved. In addition, the weather forecast will be monitored closely to prepare the construction area for any expected storms.**

**4. Plants** [\[help\]](#)

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: [\[help\]](#)

- ☒ \_\_\_deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- ☒ \_\_\_evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- ☒ \_\_\_shrubs
- ☒ \_\_\_grass
- \_\_\_pasture
- \_\_\_crop or grain
- \_\_\_ Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- \_\_\_ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- \_\_\_water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- \_\_\_other types of vegetation

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? [\[help\]](#)

There will be minor disturbances to streambank shrubs for construction of Type 1 structures. Native vegetation that is disturbed will be incorporated into the finished structures that will provide overwater and inwater cover when completed.

- c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

None known although Ute Ladies' Tresses are listed as threatened on the Endangered Species List.

- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: [\[help\]](#)

All disturbed streambanks will be mulched and replanted with native riparian species suitable to the location for long term stability. Disturbed areas associated with construction access will be replanted with native seeds, shrubs, and trees.

- e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

Reed canary grass

## 5. Animals

- a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. Examples include: [\[help\]](#)

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: raptors, dippers  
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: small mammals and rodents  
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other: sculpins, minnows, suckers, lamprey

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

Mid-Columbia Steelhead

Columbia River Bull Trout

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. [\[help\]](#)

Yes, fluvial resident trout (cutthroat, rainbow, bull trout) and anadromous fishes (chinook salmon, coho salmon, steelhead trout, sockeye salmon, pacific lamprey) migrate through this reach as adults and juveniles. Migratory birds also use the riparian buffer along the Yakima River during the nesting season.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Instream work will occur during the approved instream fish window and riparian disturbance will occur outside of the migratory bird nesting season. Every effort will be made to minimize disturbance and impacts during construction. This project is proposed to enhance fish and wildlife habitat. Numerous conservation measures and best management practices will be applied during construction and site restoration after construction is complete. WDFW will monitor fish populations before and after project construction through the treatment reach.

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

There may be small populations of sunfish (pumpkinseed, bluegill) or perch present throughout the Upper Yakima as well as eastern brook trout. Common invasive birds like sparrows and starlings are nearby as well.

## 6. Energy and natural resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc. [\[help\]](#)

**None, not applicable.**

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?  
If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

**No**

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal?  
List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

**Not applicable.**

## 7. Environmental health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal?  
If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

**Petroleum products to fuel and maintain equipment will be present on site.**

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

**None known.**

- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

**No underground infrastructure is known of at this time, but a locate will be completed prior to construction.**

- 3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.

**Petroleum products to fuel and maintain equipment during construction will be onsite.**

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

**Washington Departments of Military, Ecology, and Fish & Wildlife may respond to a chemical spill. Local emergency responders including Kittitas County Sheriff's Department and the Local Fire District may respond to emergencies during construction. No long term needs for emergency services are expected to change as a result of this project.**

- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:



Chemicals and refueling will occur as far away from the wetted stream as possible and best management practices will be applied to the construction site to prevent accidental spills to the Yakima River. All temporary access routes around the construction site will meet current state and local safety requirements as approved by Kittitas County's Public Works Department. Access routes will also have the appropriate BMPs to ensure water quality is protected in the Yakima River.

**b. Noise**

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? [\[help\]](#)

Noise from traffic exist near the project area but will not affect the project.

- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site. [\[help\]](#)

Heavy equipment, trucks, chainsaws, generators, and pumps will generate noise above ambient levels during construction. Work will occur during daylight hours and usually during the regular work week; Monday-Friday. Depending on weather forecasts, some work may occur during the weekends and/or evening hours to prepare the site for storm events. Work schedules will be arranged with surrounding landowners.

- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

All equipment will be turned off when not in use and all construction related activities will be coordinated with all stakeholders, including surrounding landowners to minimize impacts during construction. Once the project is complete, noise will not be generated above ambient levels.

**8. Land and shoreline use**

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

Surrounding property is owned by Bonneville Power Administration with some private inholdings. The property is undeveloped floodplain. The Iron Horse Trail State Park is located near the right bank of the Yakima River through the project reach. There will be no changes to current land use through the project reach. The Cle Elum Supplementation and Research Facility is located about ¼ mile downstream of the project reach.

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use? [\[help\]](#)

The property has been working forest land. It has not been harvested or managed since BPA gained ownership and the forest stands need the thinning that is proposed in this project. There will be no changes to tax status with this project.

- 1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

No

- c. Describe any structures on the site. [\[help\]](#)

**Cle Elum Supplementation and Research Facility intake is located downstream of project reach**  
**South Cle Elum Bridge is located 1.7 miles downstream of work area**  
**Iron Horse Trail State Park is adjacent to the project reach**

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? [\[help\]](#)

**No**

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [\[help\]](#)

**Rural 5**

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

**Rural Residential Land Use**

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

**Conservancy**

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

[\[help\]](#)

**Yakima River is a shoreline of the state, fish bearing water, floodplain, floodway, wetlands, and riparian areas.**

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? [\[help\]](#)

**Not applicable**

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [\[help\]](#)

**None.**

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

**Not applicable.**

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: [\[help\]](#)

**Kittitas County representatives have been involved throughout project development and all of the local, state, and federal permits and authorizations will be obtained prior to constructing the project.**

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

**There will be no changes to agricultural or forest lands of long term commercial significance.**

## **9. Housing**

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#)

**Not applicable**

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable

## 10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? [\[help\]](#)

Log posts will be installed along the river banks up to 20 feet tall.

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? [\[help\]](#)

None.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

The areas of disturbance will be minimized as much as possible. Revegetated areas will be maintained to control invasive species and promote survival of new, native vegetation.

## 11. Light and glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? [\[help\]](#)

None, not applicable

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? [\[help\]](#)

No

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? [\[help\]](#)

None known

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable

## 12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? [\[help\]](#)

Iron Horse Trail State Park is adjacent to the proposed project reach, and is a non-motorized linear trail system built upon a former railroad grade.

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

No, there will be no long term changes to recreational uses in this area. In regard to recreation, this site was selected because it is immediately downstream of river segments where wood abundance is extremely high. Full length trees and apex jams on small islands are abundant. At low flows river users must portage their craft over and around large trees in areas upstream of this project location. However, this segment is relatively straight, uniform, and nearly devoid of wood – a much different river. The second reason this project will not displace existing recreational uses is because the

jams are mostly small, extending only 15 feet into the channel at a location where site distance is greater than 500 feet. Two larger structures – 70 feet in length – are proposed but they will be built in areas where the river is extremely broad, and the location of the river thalweg provides ample opportunity for recreationists to avoid these structures. The third reason this project will not displace users is related to use. A professional guide who states that his company is on this stretch of the Yakima River nearly every day during the summer states that they see only drift boats and rafts, both of which are much more mobile than inner-tubes. The guide stated that he does not see people on inner-tubes in this area, and he stated that inexperienced boaters who try to float this reach “would have already lost all their gear” in the wood-rich areas upstream of this project location.

**Boater safety as a critical concern for WDNr. Please see the WDNr Public Safety Checklist for additional information.**

We will access the right bank (south shore) from the Iron Horse Trail. That could result in temporary, short term displacements of recreational users on the trail. We disturbances will be intermittent, with the trail remaining open more than 90% of daylight hours.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [\[help\]](#)

The project was designed to avoid displacing recreationists. The design is based upon the following principles: 1. The site is immediately downstream of extremely hazardous river sections that have large quantities of naturally-recruited wood. The restoration features will be extremely modest in size and width of the stream channel in comparison to the wood that is upstream, where log jams can span nearly the entire channel. 2. This restoration project will be built at a location that is highly simplified. The river is devoid of wood, the channel is straight and ditch-like. 3. The site is within a reach of river that is much less used than the canyon reaches downstream, and professional opinion holds that users here are in drift boats and rafts.

Project proponents will continue to attempt to coordinate with surrounding landowners and river users to minimize impacts to recreational users during and after construction. Also, the proponent has expressed support for annual meetings with swiftwater rescue personnel in order to provide a forum for discussion about these features and management of the river for multiple uses. That discussion should help focus the design, size, frequency and siting of future structures proposed for river reaches that are used by boaters to ensure that risks to human safety are not significant.

### **13. Historic and cultural preservation**

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe. [\[help\]](#)

The Yakama Nation Cultural Resources Program has surveyed the project area and will be producing a report suitable for NHPA Section 106 consultation. It is unknown at this time if there are eligible sites within the project area. A search of WISSARD gave these results:

- BNSF Bridge No 28.1
- Yakima River Bridge FF-2
- Tillman Creek Bridge FF-5

**These structures are near the work area but not in it and will not be affected by the proposed project.**

- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources. [\[help\]](#)

- **Iron Horse Trail State Park is an old rail line**

**The Yakama Nation Cultural Resources Program will provide a full survey report of their findings.**

- c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc. [\[help\]](#)

**Bonneville Power Administration is the lead federal agency for the project and will complete National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 consultation with the SHPO and THPOs. The Yakama Nation Cultural Resources Program has completed a survey and will write a report with their findings for BPA to complete the NHPA 106 consultation.**

- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

**This project will comply with NHPA Section 106 and recommendations made by archaeologists, SHPO, and THPOs to improve fish habitat in this overly simplified reach of the Yakima River.**

#### **14. Transportation**

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any. [\[help\]](#)

**South Cle Elum Road and Spring Chinook Way will be used to access the project areas.**

- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop? [\[help\]](#)

**No, public transit is not available.**

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? [\[help\]](#)

**Not applicable**

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). [\[help\]](#)

**No**

- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

**No**

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates? [\[help\]](#)

None

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Project proponents will continue to coordinate with Kittitas County and surrounding landowners to minimize impacts.

#### 15. Public services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

No

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. [\[help\]](#)

No, project sponsors have analyzed flood risks and boater safety associated with implementation of this project. There will be no increased flood risks and boater risks will be minimized by providing long site distances and ensuring no sweeper logs are installed. Please see the attached documents for additional information.

#### 16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [\[help\]](#)  
☐ electricity, ☐ natural gas, ☐ water, ☐ refuse service, ☐ telephone, ☐ sanitary sewer, ☐ septic system,  
other \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed. [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable

### C. Signature [\[HELP\]](#)

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.



Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of signee Scott Nicolai

Position and Agency/Organization Yakama Nation Fisheries, YKFP Habitat Biologist

Date Submitted: September 18, 2014